

25884 to 25887—Continued.

Plants of the following:

25884 to 25886. From Cape St. Jacques.

25884. CINNAMOMUM LOUREIRII Nees.

"This species is supposed to be one of the most valuable sources of some of the best cinnamon that comes to our market." (*R. H. True.*)

Distribution.—A native of the mountains of Cochin China and of Japan.

25885. ATALANTIA sp.

25886. TETRACRONIA CYMOSA Pierre.

Distribution.—A shrub or small tree, native of the mountains in the vicinity of Binh Dinh, French Indo-China.

25887. GARCINIA MANGOSTANA L.

Mangosteen.

From Saigon. "This delicious fruit is about the size of a mandarin orange, round and slightly flattened at each end, with a smooth, thick rind, rich red-purple in color, with here and there a bright, hardened drop of the yellow juice which marks some injury to the rind when it was young. As these mangosteens are sold in the Dutch East Indies—heaped up on fruit baskets or made up into long, regular bunches, with thin strips of braided bamboo—they are as strikingly handsome as anything of the kind could well be, but it is only when the fruit is opened that its real beauty is seen. The rind is thick and tough, and in order to get at the pulp inside it requires a circular cut with a sharp knife to lift the top half off like a cap, exposing the white segments, five, six, or seven in number, lying loose in the cup. The cut surface of the rind is of a most delicate pink color and is studded with small yellow points formed by the drops of exuding juice. As you lift out of this cup, one by one, the delicate segments, which are the size and shape of those of a mandarin orange, the light-pink sides of the cup and the veins of white and yellow embedded in it are visible. The separate segments are between snow-white and ivory in color and are covered with a delicate network of fibers, and the side of each segment where it presses against its neighbor is translucent and slightly tinged with pale green. As one poises the dainty bit of snowy fruit on his fork and looks at the empty pink cup from which it has been taken, he hardly knows whether the delicate flavor or the beautiful coloring of the fruit pleases him the more, and he invariably stops to admire the rapidly deepening color of the cut rind as it changes on exposure to the air from light pink to deep brown. The texture of the mangosteen pulp much resembles that of a well-ripened plum, only it is so delicate that it melts in your mouth like a bit of ice cream. The flavor is quite indescribably delicious and resembles nothing you know of, and yet reminds you, with a long after-taste, of all sorts of creams and ices. There is nothing to mar the perfection of this fruit, unless it be that the juice from the rind forms an indelible stain on a white napkin. Even the seeds are often partly or wholly lacking, and, when present, are generally so thin and small that they are really no trouble to get rid of. Where cheap and abundant, as in Java, one eats these fruits by the half peck, and is never tired of them. They produce no feeling of satiety, such as the banana and the mango do, for there is little substance to the delicate pulp." (*David Fairchild.*)

25888 to 25890.

From India. Presented by Mrs. Effie Pyle Fisher, Igatpuri, through Miss Audrey Goss. Received August 25, 1909.